



Office of Rep. Jason Saine

1326 Legislative Building
16 W. Jones St. Raleigh NC, 27601

Commissioner Brendan Carr
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I write today to support Commissioner Carr's proposed 5G order. Just like 3G and 4G wireless technology before it, 5G wireless broadband will offer huge new capabilities to citizens in the United States. 5G will be the first wireless infrastructure built from the ground up to power not just cellular communication but a true Internet of Things. With significant decreases in latency and speeds up to 100 times faster than 4G wireless, 5G promises to bring forward a truly interconnected world.

The benefits of the 5G wireless roll out will be vast. It will enable new advances in telemedicine, smart grid technology, autonomous vehicles, and edge computing. CTIA estimates that 5G technology will create over 3 million new jobs and \$500 billion in economic growth in the United States alone. Globally, the economic value of 5G technology is easily measured in the trillions of dollars. Right now, deployment of 5G technology is beginning in the United States, China, and South Korea. Just as we did with 4G, it is critically important that the United States win the race to be the first 5G ready economy in the global economy.

While the benefits of 5G technology are vast, there are unique challenges to deployment of 5G technology. Our current wireless infrastructure is based on the use of large scale macrocell towers that can deliver service over areas of up to 10 miles. Our regulations and permitting across the United States were created for that world. 5G will require the use of millimeter wave technology with a service area of around 1000 feet per installation. This will necessitate the siting of millions of small cell towers throughout the country. These new technologies will require an entirely new regulatory approach that lowers fees per tower and streamlines the process of permitting in order to expedite buildout across the country.

These challenges, and opportunities, are why I authored, and passed, HB 310 in the North Carolina House in 2017. HB 310 reduced regulation on permitting in public rights of way, restricted permit fees for small cell sites, and capped consulting fees for applications. It also created a shot clock for permits for small cell sites to be approved once they had filed. The Act also streamlined the process for DOT approval of small cell sites across North Carolina's highways.

By creating a statewide regulatory climate that is favorable for 5G and small cell technology North Carolina is already reaping the benefits. Raleigh and Charlotte, NC were announced as two of the first seven cities to be upgraded to 5G wireless by AT&T, and other carriers are following their lead and building out in NC as well. These buildouts will bring millions in new jobs and economic opportunity to North Carolina. Simply put, we know that creating fair and uniform regulatory standards for 5G technology works.

Commissioner Carr's 5G order will create a similar minimal regulatory standard across the United States. Such a standard is critical to ensure that the United States can win the race to be the first 5G economy. Keeping a confusing patchwork of local regulations for cell siting, many of which were designed for previous generations of wireless technologies risks delaying or even stopping the benefits of this revolutionary technology.

Commissioner Carr's order builds upon the framework set up by North Carolina and the 20 other states that have passed similar provisions. It clarifies the scope and meaning of Sections 253 and 332(c)(7) of the Communications Act, establishes shot clocks for state and local approvals for the deployment of small wireless facilities, and provides guidance on streamlining state and local requirements on wireless infrastructure deployment.

I strongly urge the FCC to adopt Commissioner Carr's order at their September 2018 meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jason R. Saine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rep. Jason R. Saine
North Carolina House of Representatives